Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In other words, in the above configuration, when the equivalent value is less than a predetermined value, it is desirable to operate with fewer phases than when the equivalent value is equal to or greater than the predetermined value. Specifically, as the input/output conversion energy or operating power increases from zero, the reactor copper losses and element losses increase on the one hand, but the reactor iron losses are virtually constant regardless of the magnitude of the input/output conversion energy or operating power, and ~~the reactor iron losses are greater for single phase than for a plurality of phases~~ the reactor iron losses are greater for a plurality of phases than for a single phase. By combining these losses it is determined that the overall efficiency is higher for a plurality of phases than single phase when the value equivalent to an input/output conversion energy volume or operation volume is greater than a certain value, but in the regime where the equivalent value is smaller than this value the efficiency of single phase operation is higher, or the phenomenon is reversed. According to this configuration, when the equivalent value of input/output conversion energy or operating power is in the relatively high region the operation is multi-phase, but in the region where there is a reversal in the overall losses, operation is carried out with fewer phases than multi-phase, so operation is always carried out under the best efficiency.